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COUNTRY RomaniaREPORT NO. TOPIC Soviet Troops in Little Bessarabia*FLD**361*

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED DATE OF CONTENT 25X1ADATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 12 September 1949REFERENCES PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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VOID

SOURCE

3 August 1949

1. A train with Soviet motor vehicles arrived in CRAIOVA R 33/34 (A 83). The following motor vehicles were observed going to the "Rumanian 1st 'Dolj' Inf Regt" Barracks and to the barracks located on the road to CARACAL (R 33/34/B 21), on the south-eastern outskirts of CRAIOVA:

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Ford passenger car, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 passenger car
 passenger car, driver with red-bordered black epaulets
 Studebaker truck
 }
 } trucks, occupied by 20 troops and hauling
 } infantry guns
 }
 truck with boxlike superstructure, occupied by women
 truck, carrying soldiers and baggage
 truck, carrying women and baggage
 Willys motor vehicle, occupied by five officers
 truck with canvas-covered cargo
 passenger car, make Ford, occupied by officers
 amphibian passenger car
 Studebaker truck
 Studebaker truck, occupied by soldiers and officers
 truck, loaded with three large boxes, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 truck with boxlike superstructure
 Studebaker truck, occupied by 15 soldiers with baggage
 truck with boxlike superstructure
 truck, occupied by 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets
 truck with canvas-covered cargo

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Studebaker truck
truck, occupied by soldiers, driver with
black epaulets
truck

} trucks, loaded with material, hauling
a total of five infantry guns

}

truck
Studebaker truck, occupied by soldiers with
baggage

25X1C.

truck, loaded with signal equipment
truck, loaded with signal equipment
truck of make Studebaker, occupied by
20 soldiers, wearing red-bordered black epaulets
truck, loaded with ammunition
Studebaker truck

truck

truck

truck, carrying soldiers and baggage

truck, carrying women and baggage

truck, loaded with baggage, d river with red-
bordered black epaulets

truck with boxlike superstructure

truck

truck with boxlike superstructure

truck, driver with black epaulets

truck with field kitchen, driver with black
epaulets

tank truck

truck with boxlike superstructures

truck, loaded with gasoline barrels

truck, occupied by soldiers

truck with boxlike superstructure, driver with
black epaulets

truck, occupied by soldiers

truck

truck with boxlike superstructure

truck, occupied by soldiers, wearing black
epaulets

truck with boxlike superstructure, occupied by
officers, wearing red epaulets

Studebaker truck with mounted machine,

gun, occupied by troops

truck, occupied by soldiers, wearing red-bordered
black epaulets

truck, occupied by soldiers, wearing red-bordered
black epaulets

truck, occupied by soldiers, wearing red-bordered
black epaulets

tank truck.

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2. The following other motor vehicles were observed in CRAIOVA:

One motor vehicle of make [REDACTED] occupied by three 25X1A
generals

One motor vehicle of make [REDACTED] occupied by five field
officers:

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[REDACTED]
truck
truck
tank truck
truck
Studebaker truck
Lillys motor vehicle
truck.

1 August 1949

3. Soviet Marshal TOLBOKIN was staying in CRAIOVA. He conferred with Romanian, Bulgarian and Hungarian military personalities in JOVOMA (R 35/W 21). Fifteen other Soviet generals also attended the conferences.

4. Seven Soviet generals were observed in CRAIOVA. One was billeted at 45 Nic. Balcescu Street, one at 47 Railroad Station Street. The others were billeted in the town center.

3 August 1949

5. Demolition charges were attached to bridges and placed at railroad stations along the CRAIOVA - CALAFAT (R 23/24/A 10) and CRAIOVA - RUJINU SURNIN (R 23/24/A 98) railroad lines. The stationmaster of CRAIOVA received a secret order, providing measures in case of large-scale Soviet troop movements.

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[REDACTED]

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b. [REDACTED]

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It was assumed from previous information that troops

(2d Gds Lecz Div ?) with motor vehicles [REDACTED]
following [REDACTED] were stationed in CRAIOVA in the fall
of 1948:

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

assumed that the troops observed in CRAIOVA on 3 August 1949 belonged to the units (2d Jde Mez Dev?) which have been stationed there since 1948.

c. Details

- (1) It is considered possible that the Soviet High Command may have made certain military preparations in Rumania in connection with the tensions between the SU and Tito Yugoslavia (see officer conferences, secret order for the CRAIOVA stationmaster).
- (2) It is also considered not improbable that Marshal TOLBUKIN may have held an officer conference in GOVORI on 1 August 1949. This information, which was also carried in newspapers on 29 August 1949, may have been based on a rumor (TOLBUKIN was CINC of the Southern Group of Forces, Rumania, up to the spring of 1947, and was later appointed CINC of the Transcaucasus MD, in which capacity he was confirmed until September 1948).
- (3) The information that Tolbukin came to Rumania to hold conferences with military personalities of the Cominform countries of Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary is in contrast with the newspaper report that Marshal KONYEV is allegedly activating a Cominform Army in Bulgaria (KONYEV was last confirmed as CINC of Soviet Ground Forces, NOSSOV, on 1 May 1949. It called attention, however, to the fact that he was not observed among the guests of honor on Soviet Air Force Day).
- (4) The Berlin newspaper "Die Zeit" ran an article on 26 March 1949, stating that "Marshal KONYEV was to assume the command in the Balkans following changes of personnel in the Soviet Army".

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